

A. D. 300	7.*	SRI'DHARA SENA, I.†
	8.	SILADITYA, I.
	9.	CHARAGRIHA, I.
	10.	SRI'DHARA SENA, II.
	11.	DHRUVA SENA, II.
	12.	SRÍDHARA SENA, II.
	13.	SILADITYA, II.

At this part of the copper-plate the writing is so obliterated, that the names of two or three princes cannot be made out.

16. Mahárája CHARAGRIHA, II.

A. D. 524 17. SILADITYA, III.

A. D. 559 18. SILADITYA MUSALLI, IV.

The first two princes have the title *Senápati* alone. All those subsequent to No. 3, *Mahárája*. The whole had the title of "SRI' BHATARCA," and the device on their banner, was the "NANDI," or sacred bull of SIVA, as appears from the seals attached to both inscriptions.

II.—*Synopsis of the Thár and Ghorál Antelopes.* By B. H. HODGSON,  
*Esq., Resident in Nipal.*

[In a letter to the Secretary As. Soc. read 7th Oct.]

I beg to forward to you, herewith, synoptical descriptions of the Thár and Ghorál Antelopes, derived from careful examination of a great many individuals of both sexes, which were either alive or recently killed at the time of examination. These descriptions are preceded by an amended definition of the group to which the animals belong; that given by SMITH in the English Regne Animal being so inaccurate, as to be calculated only to lead the inquirer astray. Mine, now proposed, is drawn from an intimate knowledge of three out of the four species comprising the group. But it is probable that very much yet remains to be done before the vast genus Antelope can be successfully divided into subgenera, fitted either to illustrate natural affinities, or even to render perfect, facility of reference. Mr. OWEN has, since the publication of the English CUVIER, recast this extensive genus in a manner very different from SMITH's, though not, I think, superior to it. Considering, indeed, how extremely superficial is our knowledge of the greater part of this vast assemblage of the hollow-horned

\* These seven are from the first inscription, the following from the second inscription.

† A. D. 319. In his reign, the Valabhi æra is supposed to have commenced.

ruminants, it might be as well, perhaps, for our general classifiers, to bear in mind the Baconian adage, that "an over-early reduction of knowledge into methods generates acquiescence" in misleading systems of nature.

My apology for the amended indication of the subgenus *NÆMORHEDUS* of the English Regne Animal, now attempted, is, that the celebrity of that work might fix and propagate errors which I happen to possess the means of correcting; and that, as I have an unusually complete knowledge of three out of the four species comprised in this group, my definition of it may perhaps stand the test of time, if the group itself be allowed to remain.

*Nipal, August 1835.*

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*English Regne Animal Synopsis.*

*Sub-Genus XIII. Næmorhedus, SMITH.*

*Subgeneric character (nobis).*

Structure assuming a caprine form, suited for heavy climbing, or for leaping; horns in both sexes, their cores hollow\*, and connected with the frontal sinuses, but not porous, and only sub-cellular, inserted behind the orbits, short, conical, simply bent back, annulo-wrinkled, parallel to the plane of the face, and nearly so to each other, sub-remote at base; suborbital sinus, small, or wanting; no inguinal pores; tail caprine; ears longish, pointed, and striated; muzzle small, or none; knees callous? maned, hair of two sorts, and thick; or, of one sort, and spare; four teats in the females. Reside in the mountainous and woody regions of the continent and islands of India, solitarily, or in small groups.

Sp. 1. A. SUMATRENSIS. *Cambing Ootan.*

Sp. 2. A. DUVAUCELLII. *Variety of Ghorál!*

Sp. 3. A. GUORAL. Characters—extremely caprine, being allied to antelope only by its round and ringed horns. Size small, attitude gathered, with back much arched, and structure adapted for leaping; limbs moderately stout and rigid; general form of the skull caprine, with the ridge line much bent, and the parietes depressed at a strong angle to the frontal bones, and no indentation before the orbits; fifty inches long, exclusive of the tail, and twenty-seven high; horns seated on the crest of the frontals, six inches long, the points inclined inwards, 20 to 25 annuli extending  $\frac{2}{3}$ rds up the

\* This, as a generic character, has been used to separate *Capra* and *Damalis* from Antelope; upon which I have only to observe, that I know four species still retained under Antelope, which have nevertheless hollow-cored horns.

horns; annuli crowded and vague, especially towards the bases, somewhat interrupted by faint longitudinal striæ, truncated, independant of each other, and equally developed all round; no suborbital sinuses, a half muzzle; upper lip clad, tail conico-depressed, and only half nude below; fur of two sorts, abundant and loosely applied to the skin; a short, semi-erect mane on the vertex. Knees usually callous and nude, but not congenitally so; colours of the animal rusty and brown, paler below; line of the vertex, tail, chest, and a stripe down the front of the fore legs and back of the hind, brown black; outsides of ears rusty, lips and chin rufescent white, a large patch of pure white at the junction of the head and neck, below; horns, hoofs, and muzzle, black; iris, dark hazel; eye, mean. Inhabits juxta Himálayan region of Nipal. Female smaller and paler hued; young, redder and no marks or mane.

Sp. 4. A. ТНА'Р, nobis. The *Thár* of the Nipalese. New. Characters less decidedly caprine than in the last, very nearly allied to the *Cambing Ootan*. Back straight, withers higher than the croup, and structure suited for heavy climbing, not for leaping; limbs very stout and rigid, with higher hoofs than in the last, the edges of which are raised above the pads. General form of the skull cervine, with the ridge line *moderately* convexed, and the parietes *not* depressed at a strong angle to the frontal bones. A deep indentation before the orbits. Horns posterior to orbits, but below the crest of frontals, eight inches long, rather stouter and less falcated, than in the preceding, sub-divergent, with the points inclined outwards, 20 to 30 crowded annuli, extending  $\frac{2}{3}$  rds up the horns, the annuli truncated, equal all round, independant, broken by decided longitudinal striæ; one inch below the eye, a suborbital sinus, opening on a nude space by a round puncture, and furnished with a fleshy thick gland secreting a viscous humour, as in *Sumatrensis*; no maxillary sinus, a half muzzle; larger than in the preceding, but existing only as a broad line in front of the upper lip, which is otherwise clad in hair. Tail shorter, depressed nude below; fur of one sort only, scanty, harsh, and applied to the skin; a semi-erect-mane, as in *Ghorál*; knees, callous, perhaps congenitally so. Sternum not so, size large, 64 inches long by 38 high, and upwards of 200 lbs. in weight. Colour of the whole animal above, with the entire head and neck, jet black; on the flanks, mixed with deep clay red. The fore arms and hams outside, as far down as the great flexures, clay red, nearly or wholly unmixed; rest of the limbs, hoary, or rufescent hoary; outsides of ears, dark; chest, pale. No stripes down legs; lips and chin dull hoary, and a stripe of pure hoary running

backwards over the jaws from the gape; horns, hoofs, and muzzle, black; iris, dark hazel; eye, mean.

Female as large as male, and like him in all essential respects. The young, paler, and mixed with gray.

Inhabit the precipitous and wooded mountains of the central region of Nipal, which they rush up and down with fearful rapidity, though they do not spring or leap well, nor are speedy.

The *Thár* species are denominated *Sarau*, in the western parts of these mountains, where it is as common as in Nipal. The *Cambing Ootan* is its analogue in the Indian *Islands*; but the species is not found, I believe, in any other mountainous range of the continent of India.

III.—*On the Wild Goat and Wild Sheep of the Himálaya, with Remarks on the genera Capra and Ovis. By B. H. HODGSON, Esq. Resident in Nipal.*

In the way of classification, there are few objects, I believe, more important than the establishment of some distinctive marks to separate *Antilope*, *Capra* and *Ovis*. The best naturalists of the present day appear to think that M. GEOFFROY'S diagnosis of the former genus, viz. cores of the horns solid, may be relied on. But small as is the number of Antelopes accessible to me, I have proved with the saw, that in respect to at least four species, (viz. *Chírú*, *Thár*, *Goral*, and *Duvaucellii*,) the fact is not so, all these four having sinuses in the cores of their horns, connected with the frontal sinuses: and, if it be objected, that of three of these the character is confessedly osculant towards *Capra*, that cannot be urged against the fourth, which is a *Gazella* of H. SMITH'S group.

It is certain, therefore, that solid horns constitute not an *invariable* character of the genus *Antilope*; and it is highly probable, that this character is *not of such general prevalence* as to warrant the distinction founded upon it.

The truth seems to be this, that in *Antilope*, the bony nuts of the horns are of a compact structure, possessing at their bases sinuses of only limited extent, and nearly free from cellular partitions; whereas in *Capra*, and yet more in *Ovis*, the cores are porous and uncompact, and furnished at their bases with large sinuses, crowded with cells\*.

On the present occasion, I do not propose to make any further mention of the genus *Antilope*, but to confine myself to some remarks

\* The form of the scull a long vertical line, forms a much better diagnosis than the cores of horns.